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THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 09/974,511

Applicant(s) : Masahiro KAWAKAMI et al.

Filed : October 10, 2001

For : SMELTING REDUCTION METHOD

Art Unit : 1742

Examiner : Melvyn J. Andrews

Docket No. : 00447CD/HG

Confirmation
No. : 8922

Customer No. : 01933

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Date of Deposit: August 5, 2003

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Laraine Dobies

Laraine Dobies

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

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Applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time for the timely filing of the papers filed concurrently herewith.

Extended time expires August 6, 2003.

A check for \$410 is attached to cover the Patent Office fee. If any further fees are required, authorization is given to charge same against Account No. 06-1378.

Respectfully submitted,

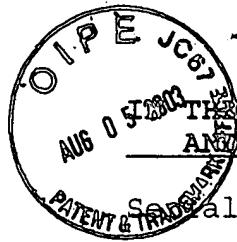
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AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent & Trademark
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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

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